



*Voice of the Oregon Cattle Industry Since 1913*  
3415 Commercial St., SE, Salem, OR 97302 (503) 361-8941

Robert M. Skinner  
PO Box 216  
Jordan Valley, Oregon 97910  
Phone: 541-586-2282  
Fax: 541-586-2285  
e-mail: bskinner@m-hip.com

## **HR 1904 Healthy Forest Restoration Act**

May 19, 2003

Dear Congressman Walden,

On behalf of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, I want to thank you and President Bush for taking a positive interest in the forestlands of this Nation. It is probably not necessary to reflect on the past, but it is evident now that our forest industries have suffered tremendously as have our forest resources because of the previous administration's policies.

We applaud you for crafting this legislation, and strongly support your efforts. Far too often land managers must sit back while our forests burn, rot and decay from within. Streamlining the bureaucratic system and providing a real role for science will get the primary functions of our national forest resources back on track. This is what Theodore Roosevelt had in mind back in 1905 -- he wanted "healthy forests" as do you and President Bush.

I will never forget the great honor I had of meeting last summer with President Bush in Portland, when he said "we need to rely on real science and common sense when it comes to managing our resources".

The Oregon Cattlemen are extremely proud of your efforts in Congress. Your continuous efforts on behalf of resource users as well as the resources themselves do not go unnoticed. Once again, thanks for your efforts and hard work. Your sponsorship of HR 1904 is proof, once again, of your interest in "doing the right thing" for the resources and the people who are entrusted with the management of them.

Respectfully,

**Robert M. Skinner**

Robert M. Skinner  
President